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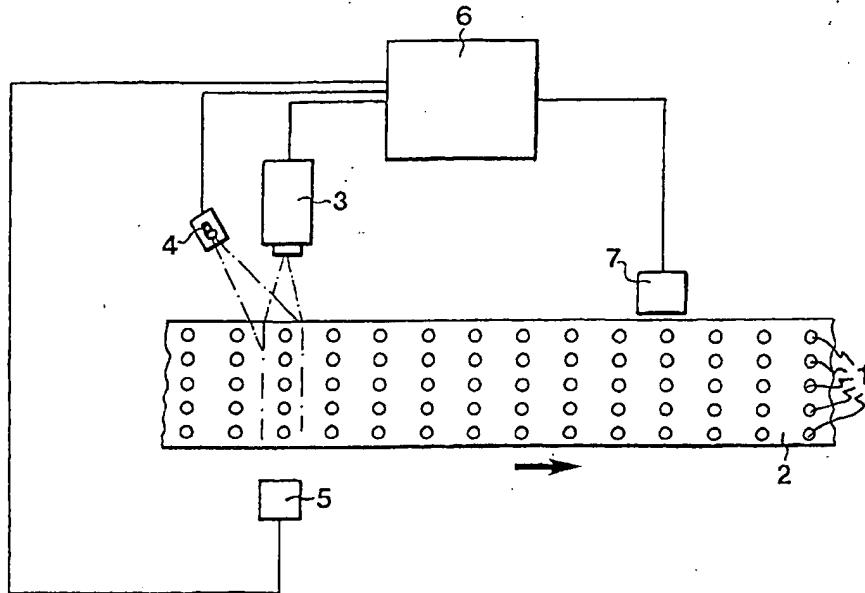
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(54) Determination of concentration

(57) An apparatus for determining the concentration of a first component in a mixture of at least two components, which have different absorption properties in the IR range, comprises image recording means (3; 24) which are adapted to image the mixture by means of IR

radiation to produce at least one image. The apparatus further comprises image processing means (6, 26) which, with the aid of intensity values for pixels in the image which represent the mixture, determine the concentration of the first component in the mixture.

FIG 1





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	WO 96 22511 A (NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP) 25 July 1996 (1996-07-25) * page 5, line 23 - page 11, line 10; figure 1 *	1-8, 19	G01N21/35 G01N21/85 B07C5/342
X	BARONTI S ET AL: "Principal component analysis of visible and near-infrared multispectral images of works of art" CHEMOMETRICS AND INTELLIGENT LABORATORY SYSTEMS, vol. 39, no. 1, 1 November 1997 (1997-11-01), pages 103-114, XP004097521 ISSN: 0169-7439 * page 103 - page 107 *	1, 2, 4-8, 19	
X	"MEASUREMENT OF OXYGEN AND CARBON CONCENTRATIONS IN SILICON WAFERS BY USING INFRARED VIDICON CAMERA" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, vol. 28, no. 3, 1985, pages 1180-1181, XP002112318 * the whole document *	1, 3, 7, 8, 19	
X	TAYLOR S ET AL: "NIR IMAGING SPECTROSCOPY: MEASURING THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHEMICAL COMPONENTS" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL NIRS CONFERENCE, 1 January 1989 (1989-01-01), pages 393-404, XP000577996 * page 393 - page 394 *	1, 4-8, 19	
A	WO 96 24835 A (WOLFKING DANMARK AS ;DITMARSEN JAN (DK); JENSEN HILMER (DK); PETER) 15 August 1996 (1996-08-15) * page 1, line 5 - page 5, line 7 * * page 5, line 33 - line 34 *	9, 12, 17, 18	
-/-			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	16 November 1999	Tabellion, M	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention		
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date		
A : technological background	D : document cited in the application		
O : non-written disclosure	L : document cited for other reasons		
P : intermediate document	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

- No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

- As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

- Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

1-15,17-19

- None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 99 85 0085

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	<p>EP 0 767 369 A (PERSTORP ANALYTICAL INC) 9 April 1997 (1997-04-09)</p> <p>* column 1, line 12 - line 27 *</p> <p>* column 3, line 14 - line 30 *</p> <p>-----</p>	12,17,18	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	16 November 1999	Tabellion, M	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		<p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>	
<small>EPO FORM 1603.03 02 (P01/01)</small>			



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-9,17,19

Determination of concentration in an ointment

2. Claims: 10,11

Determination of concentration in a mixture of separate particles

3. Claims: 12-15,18

Determination of concentration in tablets

4. Claim : 16

Determination of concentration and size and/or shape parameter

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 99 85 0085

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

16-11-1999

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